

# **VERMONT MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

*Conference Call Meeting of the Board of Trustees*

**August 29, 2008**

## **Board members present:**

STEVEN JEFFREY, Chairperson, Employee Representative (term expiring July 1, 2010)

DAVID LEWIS, Vice-Chairperson, Employer Representative (term expiring July 1, 2009)

JEB SPAULDING, Vermont State Treasurer

STEPHEN RAUH, Governor's Appointee

## **Board member absent:**

PETER AMONS, Employee Representative (term expiring July 1, 2011)

## **Also attending:**

Beth Pearce, Deputy State Treasurer

Bill Rice, Director of Law and Policy

Cynthia Webster, Director of Retirement Policy and Outreach

Chairperson Steve Jeffrey called the conference call meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, August 29, 2008 in the Treasurer's Office Conference Room at 109 State Street, Montpelier, Vermont.

## **ITEM #1    Discuss and Act Upon Recommendation to Seek IRS Determination Letter**

The last IRS determination letter was received in 1991. Mr. Rice explained that there is a five year cycle for pension plans to be able to request determine letters. If we do not request a determination letter during the 2008 cycle, we will not be eligible to do so again until 2013. Mr. Rice went on to state it would benefit the VMERS to obtain an updated determination letter as it is being requested more frequently by vendors looking to do business with the retirement systems. The IRS has also stated they will work with public systems seeking voluntary compliance, and as a result it is likely they will be more forgiving if non-compliance issues are found.

It was verified the total cost to the VMERS would likely be between \$30,000 and \$35,000, perhaps less, but no more.

**On motion of Mr. Rauh seconded by Mr. Spaulding, it was unanimously voted to authorize the Treasurer's Office to apply for a qualified plan determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service as recommended in Bill Rice's memorandum.**

**ITEM #2   Adjournment**

**On a motion by Mr. Lewis seconded by Mr. Spaulding, it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 11:38 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Webster, Secretary to the Board

